Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A hand-held device to control motion of a pointer on a display screen, the device comprising:

a shell capable of being held by a hand;

a pressure sensor having pressure-sensitive zones that are each associated with a direction of motion of the pointer on the display screen; and

an actuator positioned to be manipulated by a digit of the hand holding the shell, and that when manipulated presses against at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones ~~to cause~~ causing each pressure-sensitive zone to generate a signal having a magnitude that is proportional to an amount of pressure exerted on that zone at a particular point in time, and further causing the pointer to move on the display screen in ~~a~~ any angular direction that is determined both by the direction of motion associated with and also the magnitude of the signal generated by the at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones against which the actuator is pressed.

2. (Currently amended) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the actuator, when manipulated, presses against at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones to further cause the pointer to move on the display screen with a speed determined by ~~an~~ the amount of pressure with which the actuator is pressed against the at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones.

3. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein each of the pressure-sensitive zones, when operable, generate a voltage signal according to a relative amount of pressure applied to each of the pressure-sensitive zones.

4. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the device further includes a click button capable of being manipulated by a second digit of the hand holding the shell.

5. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 4, wherein the click button has a toggle switch for left- and right- click operations.

6. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the pressure sensor has at least four pressure-sensitive zones that are each associated with a direction of motion of the pointer on the display screen, and wherein the actuator contains at least four protrusions that each can press against one of the pressure-sensitive zones when the actuator is manipulated to cause the pointer to move on the display screen in a direction determined by the direction of motion associated with the pressure-sensitive zones against which the protrusions are pressed.

7. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 6, wherein the pressure sensor has at least eight pressure-sensitive zones that are each associated with a direction of motion of the pointer on the display screen, and wherein the actuator contains at least eight protrusions that each can press against one of the pressure-sensitive zones when the actuator is manipulated to cause the pointer to move on the display screen in a direction determined by the direction of motion associated with the pressure-sensitive zones against which the protrusions are pressed.

8. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the shell is a soft, flexible shell.

9. (Original) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein a top surface of the actuator is substantially planar.

10. (Currently amended) An actuator usable within a hand-held pointing device to control a pointer on a display screen, the actuator comprising:

a top surface capable of being manipulated by a digit of a hand to cause the actuator to swivel about a pivot point; and

a bottom surface having at least four protrusions spaced apart in a polygonal pattern that are associated with at least four pressure zones on a pressure-sensitive film, ~~wherein each protrusion is capable of being pressed against a pressure zone on a pressure-sensitive film to cause motion of the pointer on the display screen when the actuator swivels about the pivot point~~ such that when the actuator swivels about the pivot point, each pressure zone on the pressure-sensitive film generates a signal having a magnitude that is proportional to an amount of pressure exerted on that pressure zone by one of the protrusions at a particular point in time, causing the

pointer to move on the display screen in any angular direction determined by both a direction of motion associated with and also the magnitude of the signal generated by each pressure zone against which the protrusions are pressed.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The actuator of claim ~~11~~ 10, wherein each protrusion is capable of being pressed against a pressure zone on a pressure-sensitive film to cause the pointer to move on the display screen with a speed determined by ~~an~~ the amount of pressure with which the protrusions are pressed against the pressure zones.

13. (Original) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the protrusions are equally spaced apart in a polygonal pattern.

14. (Original) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the protrusions include at least eight protrusions.

15. (Original) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the top surface is a substantially planar surface.

16. (Currently amended) A method for controlling motion of a pointer on a display screen through operation of a hand-held pointing device, the method comprising:

detecting ~~an amount~~ amounts of pressure applied to pressure-sensitive zones on a pressure sensor when at least one protrusion of an actuator presses against at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones, the pressure sensor and the actuator being contained within the hand-held pointing device, wherein such detecting includes processing signals generated by each of the pressure-sensitive zones that have signal magnitudes proportional to the amounts of pressure applied to the zones at a particular point in time;

determining a direction of motion ~~based on the amount of pressure applied to each of the pressure-sensitive zones using a vector calculation~~ that is based on both a sensing direction of

motion associated with and also on the magnitude of the signal generated by each pressure-sensitive zone against which the at least one protrusion is pressed; and

sending information relating to the direction of motion to a computing device to cause motion of the pointer on the display screen.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises:

determining a speed of motion based on the amount of pressure applied to each of the pressure-sensitive zones; and

sending information relating to the speed of motion to the computing device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the method further comprises:

detecting input from a click button contained within the pointing device;

determining a click operation based on the input from the click button; and

sending information relating to the click operation to the computing device.

19. (New) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the actuator, when manipulated to press against at least one of the pressure-sensitive zones, causes the pointer to move on the display screen in any angular direction that is determined from a resultant vector calculated from individual component vectors that are derived from the signals generated by each of the pressure-sensitive zones.

20. (New) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the pressure sensor has pressure-sensitive zones that are each made of piezoresistive material.

21. (New) The hand-held device of claim 1, wherein the angular direction comprises a direction between 0 and 359 degrees.

22. (New) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the actuator swiveling about the pivot point causes the pointer to move on the display screen in any angular direction that is determined from a

resultant vector calculated from individual component vectors that are derived from the signals generated by each of the pressure zones.

23. (New) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the pressure-sensitive film has at least four pressure zones that are each made of piezoresistive material.

24. (New) The actuator of claim 10, wherein the angular direction comprises a direction between 0 and 359 degrees.

25. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein determining the direction of motion includes determining a resultant vector that is calculated from individual component vectors derived from the signals generated by each of the pressure-sensitive zones.

26. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein determining the direction of motion includes determining an angular direction of motion between 0 and 359 degrees.